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Title: Comparative economic burden of chronic spontaneous urticaria, psoriasis and atopic dermatitis in the US

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Introduction

Published evidence showing the comparative economic burden of chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU) versus other chronic dermatological diseases is limited. The objective of this study was to evaluate the comparative healthcare resource use (HRU) and impact on the work productivity and activities among patients with CSU, psoriasis (PSO), and atopic dermatitis (AD) in the US.

Materials and methods

Data from adult respondents with a physician diagnosis of CSU, PSO, or AD were collected from the 2019 US National Health and Wellness Survey, a nationally representative survey of patient-reported outcomes. Respondents provided HRU (% of patients and number of healthcare provider (HCP) visits, emergency room (ER) visits, and hospitalisation) in the past 6 months and completed the Work Productivity and Activity Impairment (WPAI) questionnaire (only employed patients reported on work). Generalized linear models, adjusted for covariates (e.g., clinical profile, comorbidities, prescription usage), were used to compare outcomes. Results are presented as adjusted mean/percentage (standard error [SE]).

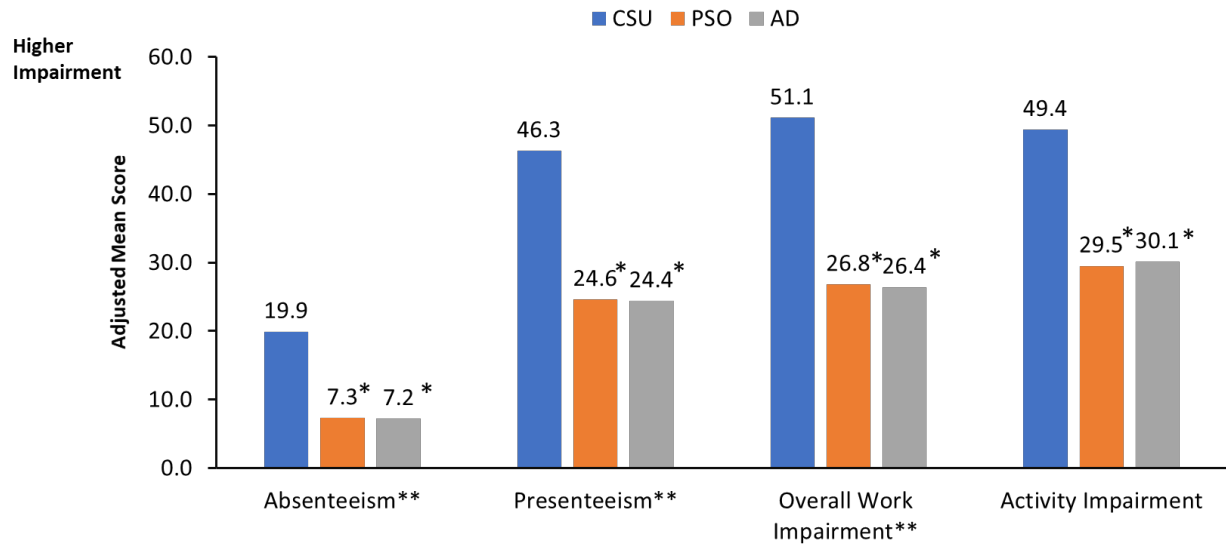
Results

Among 74,994 respondents, 371 had CSU, 2,061 had PSO, and 549 had AD. The % [SE] of CSU patients reporting HRUs was higher compared to PSO and AD respectively: any HCP visits: CSU 97.3% [0.7], PSO 92.8% [0.7]; $p=0.0002$ and AD 96.0% [0.8]; $p=0.1893$; ER visits: CSU 38.8% [2.9], PSO 15.7% [0.8], AD 15.3% [1.6] and hospitalisations: 28.9% [2.8] vs 8.4% [0.6] vs 7.3% [1.0]; $p<0.0001$ for all. Mean [SE] number of any HCP visits: CSU 6.7 [0.4], PSO 5.2 [0.1]; $p=0.0002$, AD 6.1 [0.3]; $p=0.2305$; ER visits: CSU 0.7 [0.1], PSO 0.3 [0.02], AD 0.3 [0.04] and hospitalisations: CSU 0.5 [0.11], PSO 0.2 [0.02], AD 0.1 [0.03]; $p<0.0001$ for all. Employment status was similar across all patients, and patients with CSU reported significantly worse WPAI scores compared to PSO and AD (**Figure 1**).

Discussion

After adjusting for confounders, this study showed that CSU was associated with significantly higher use of healthcare resources, especially emergency visits and hospitalization, more absenteeism, and higher overall work and activity impairment when compared to PSO and AD.

Figure 1: Work Productivity and Activity Impairment (WPAI) scores for chronic spontaneous urticaria patients relative to psoriasis and atopic dermatitis



* $p < .0001$; based on paired comparison of CSU vs PSO and CSU vs AD

**only for employed respondents (CSU: N=265, PSO: N= 1,155, and AD:296)

AD: Atopic Dermatitis; CSU: Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria; PSO: Psoriasis

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